

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 693** HLS 24RS 889

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 22, 2024 2:38 PM	<b>Author:</b> BAYHAM
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	<b>Analyst:</b> Richie Anderson
<b>Subject:</b> Seafood Importer License	

SEAFOOD OR INCREASE SD RV See Note  
Establishes a seafood import license for seafood dealers

Proposed law authorizes the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) to charge a fee for the license to import seafood. This would apply to anyone who is importing seafood that is caught outside the Federal Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The proposed law states that all of the revenue collected from the licenses be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund. Seafood dealers will be required to get the importer seafood dealer's license in addition to maintaining their wholesale/retail dealer's license. Proposed law would tier the amount for the license based on the weight in pounds of seafood that is imported.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

  

REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is able to make the proposed changes to the licensing system using existing resources and staff; however, if LDWF enforcement division is required to verify and audit the licenses it would require significant additional staff and equipment to accurately verify fees paid coincide with the volume of seafood imported.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

LDWF anticipates an increase in projected revenues; however, the actual amount of the increase is indeterminable. Proposed law requires that all proceeds from the sale of licenses be deposited into the Imported Seafood Safety Fund. LDWF issues approximately 3,422 wholesale/retail licenses annually, it remains unclear how many of these license holders engage in seafood importing and the corresponding volume of seafood they import. The amount charged for a license is determined by the weight of seafood imported as shown in the following table.

Pounds of Seafood Imported	Fee
0-5,000	\$500
5,001-20,000	\$1,500
20,001-40,000	\$5,000
40,001-60,000	\$10,000
60,001-80,000	\$20,000
80,001-100,000	\$30,000
100,001+	\$40,000

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

- 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
- 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House

- 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
- 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

**Patrice Thomas**  
**Deputy Fiscal Officer**